

# **Battlefield Bass Anglers Spotsylvania, Virginia Constitution and By Laws**

**Effective (August 7, 2013)**

## **ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose**

### **Section 1: Name**

This chapter shall be called the: Battlefield Bass Anglers  
City and State: Spotsylvania, Virginia

### **Section 2: Purpose**

To stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our state conservation department our organized moral and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his/her crime. To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass catching techniques and ideas, and to promote and encourage youth fishing and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the state B.A.S.S. Nation, embracing the principles and purposes of B.A.S.S.®.

## **ARTICLE II – Membership**

### **Section 1: Number of Members**

The chapter shall maintain at least six and no more than 25 active members.

### **Section 2: Requirement for Regular Membership**

To become a chapter member, a person shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- (b) Be a member of B.A.S.S. (See ARTICLE VI for affiliation requirements.)
- (c) Be a member of the state B.A.S.S. Nation.
- (d) Be recommended by two members at a regular monthly meeting.
- (e) Be voted on by membership. Vote shall be by secret ballot and affirmation shall be unanimous.
- (f) Be 16 years of age.

### **Section 3: Prospective Membership**

Prospective new members must attend one meeting and fish one tournament as a “guest” prior to becoming eligible for charter membership. The prospective new member must fish a tournament with a charter member other than the sponsor (if sponsored for membership). Once the new member

is accepted into the charter the prior fish points from the tournament fished as a guest will be brought forward and added to the new member's total points for the club year. The requirement for fishing a tournament may be waived due to extenuating circumstances.

(a) Voting and notification of prospective new member will take place as follows

- (1) Voting on a new prospective member will only take place at the end of the monthly meeting.
- (2) The prospective new member will have an opportunity to express their desire to join the chapter prior to being dismissed for voting.
- (3) The prospective new member will be dismissed from the meeting to allow for voting and discussion amongst the membership.
- (4) After the prospective new member departs, an open discussion and secret ballot vote will take place on the prospective new member.
- (5) Once the vote is taken and tallied, the prospective new member will be notified by email within three days of the vote.

(b) Any prospective member who fails to be voted into the charter for membership may not reapply for membership until the following club year.

#### **Section 4: Requirements for Junior Membership\***

To become a junior member of an adult chapter, a person shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- (b) Be under 16 years of age.

\*Junior members are not required to pay national membership dues and are not entitled to the benefits of a regular member. The acceptance of junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Junior members may not hold office in an adult club nor may they be voting members. At age 16, junior members may continue membership by joining the club as a regular member. Junior membership ceases on a person's 16th birthday.

#### **Section 5: Membership Dues**

The membership dues shall be \$65.00 annually, initially payable upon being voted into the chapter, \$30.00 of which shall be for National BASS Nation dues and \$35.00 will be for State Bass Nation dues. B.A.S.S. membership dues are also required at the current rate. (See ARTICLE VI, Section 1 for state affiliation requirements.)

#### **Section 6: Meetings of Members**

The membership shall hold regular meetings on the first Wednesday of every month @ 7PM. If the first Wednesday should fall on a national holiday then the meeting will take place the third Wednesday of that month @ 7PM. Location of meeting shall be decided and announced at previous chapter meeting.

### **ARTICLE III – Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility**

Officers shall conduct the affairs of the Chapter in a manner consistent with these Bylaws. The State B.A.S.S. Nation Board of Directors is required to be comprised of members who are free to serve the State and its members without a conflict of interest. Any State Board Member or State Officer, or an employee of any other B.A.S.S. federation type organization will not be permitted to hold an office within the B.A.S.S. Nation at any level.

### **Section 1: Officers and their Duties**

The officers of the chapter shall consist of:

- (a) **President:** Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an Ex officio member of all committees. Supervise all club functions.
- (b) **Vice President:** Act as program chairman, assist the president in his/her duties and preside in the absence of the president.
- (c) **Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the chapter president. Maintain regular liaison between your chapter and the B.A.S.S. Nation and the state B.A.S.S. Nation chapter.
- (d) **Treasurer:** Collect and disburse all monies. Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the chapter board of directors. The chapter may vote that the treasurer and any other officer handling chapter funds must be bonded.
- (e) **Conservation Chairman/Tournament Director:** Serve as liaison between the chapter and state and national conservation/environmental agencies. Plan chapter conservation projects and attend all local and state conservation meetings/hearings. Additionally, the Tournament Director ensures that all club tournaments follow and obey all national, state, and chapter rules and laws. supervises the tournament committee in the performance of their duties. Determines the order of finish and points awarded for each tournament. Maintains records of each tournament and overall point standings. Responsible for overall safety at each tournament.
- (f) **Youth Chairman:** Organize all youth activities and programs. Coordinate youth events and start a Junior Bassmaster Chapter when the chapter is ready for this sponsorship.

### **Section 2: Elections**

The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of November with the exception of 2013 in which the club was founded. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election for each officer shall be held separately in the order listed in ARTICLE III, Section 1.

### **Section 3: Eligibility of Vote**

Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

### **Section 4: Term of Office**

The term of office is for one year, which shall begin on January 1st and end on the last

meeting day of December or until the successor assumes office.

### **Section 5: Vacancies**

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office. National B.A.S.S. headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officers.

### **Section 6: Eligibility for Holding Office**

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- (a) Have been a member for six months. (Six months' requirement waived during first 12 months of chapter existence.)
- (b) Have attended at least 75% of the chapter meetings and 75% of chapter functions during a 12 month period.
- (c) Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.
- (d) Maintain current B.A.S.S. membership.

### **ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees**

All standing committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of the committee members will coincide with that of the president. Each committee shall elect a chairman.

(a) **Board of Directors:** The board of directors will consist of seven members: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, Tournament Director and Youth Director by majority vote of the members present at the December regular meetings.

(1) The president will call all meetings of the board of directors and preside at such meetings.

(2) The secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.

(3) The board will rule on all tournament rules infractions, chapter bylaws violations and all protests when appropriately received.

(4) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.

(b) **Youth Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a chapter youth project; to introduce young people to the goals of B.A.S.S.; to give them a basis of respect for our national heritage and an appreciation of the basic rules for honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship; and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.

(c) **Conservation Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to the proper authorities violations of local, state and federal antipollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices; to take legal action where appropriate; to undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness of threats to our environment; and to take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life giving waters of America.

(d) **Tournament Committee:** The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan,

organize and operate all chapter tournaments. The tournament committee will draft tournament rules, which must then be approved by the general membership. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules, investigate all protests concerning tournaments and make recommendations to the board of directors.

**ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership**

**Section 1: Removal of Membership**

Members may be dropped from the membership roll for the following reasons:

- (a) Failure to pay dues.
- (b) Any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the chapter and/or B.A.S.S. Nation.
- (c) Failure to attend 50% of the chapter meetings and 50% of chapter functions during a 12 month period.
- (d) Disqualification for any reason from participating in B.A.S.S. sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol. Note: Military deployment exempt.

**ARTICLE VI – Affiliation**

**Section 1: Requirements for Affiliation**

- (a) Approval of chapter charter by B.A.S.S..
- (b) Update B.A.S.S. with chapter membership roster once each year. Annual update cycle begins each year on Nov. 1.
- (c) Names and addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted online to B.A.S.S. as they occur. (See ARTICLE II, Section 3 for dues requirements.)
- (d) Maintain 100% B.A.S.S. membership.
- (e) Must affiliate with the state Nation and support its conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the state establishes for chapters, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary for the chapter to participate in the state qualifying tournament(s) and any other Nation sponsored tournaments or events.

**ARTICLE VII – Method of Amending the Bylaws**

**Section 1: Amending the Bylaws**

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two thirds vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

\*\*\*\*\*

CERTIFICATION: The above Constitution and By-Laws were presented to the membership for adoption, in its entirety, by a majority vote. It supersedes all previously approved written or verbal policies.

Date: 8/7/2013

President: 